

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AS-01 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 COME-00

AID-05 /081 W

-----171251Z 109834 /46

R 170820Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7933

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 2589

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VM, SN

SUBJ: SRV RELATIONS

REF: SINGAPORE 2586

1. FOLLOWING MY PRESENTATION TO ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER LEE KHOON CHOY JUNE 16 ON THE LATEST US-SRV TALKS IN PARIS (REFTEL), I ASKED LEE IF HE COULD FILL ME IN ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF SINGAPORE-SRV RELATIONS. I SAID I UNDERSTOOD IN THIS REGARD THAT SOME AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED DURING PHAN HIEN'S VISIT TO SINGAPORE LAST YEAR FOR FOLLOW-UP SINGAPORE-SRV TALKS ON NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS AND INCREASED TRADE.

2. LEE STATED THAT THE SRV REMAINED ANXIOUS TO ESTABLISH  
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FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SINGAPORE, AND THAT THIS HAD BEEN PROPOSED BY PHAN HIEN DURING LATTER'S TALKS WITH LEE KUAN YEW AND OTHER GOS OFFICIALS. HOWEVER, THE GOS HAD NOTED FROM HANOI'S STATEMENTS (WHICH HAD IN FACT OCCURRED DURING PHAN HIEN'S VISIT) THAT THE SRV EVIDENTLY BELIEVED THE ONLY SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES WHICH COULD BE CONSIDERED GENUINELY INDEPENDENT WERE THOSE WITH MARXIST-LENINIST GOVERNMENTS. THE GOS HAD

QUERIED HANOI ON THIS ISSUE, AND HAD ALSO ASKED THE SRV TO STATE WHETHER IT WAS WILLING TO LIVE IN PEACE WITH ITS NEIGHBORS AND NOT INTERFERE IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS. PENDING CLARIFICATION ON ALL THESE POINTS, SINGAPORE WOULD NOT AGREE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH HANOI. HANOI AS YET HAD NOT RESPONDED.

3. I ASKED LEE IF TRADE RELATIONS WITH THE SRV WOULD NEVERTHELESS BE BROADENED. HE INDICATED THAT IT WAS UP TO HANOI TO SET THE PACE ON TRADE MATTERS. SINGAPORE WOULD BE WILLING TO ENGAGE IN COMMERCIAL RELATIONS, BUT WOULD NOT TAKE THE INITIATIVE. HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PDIP, ETRD, VM, SN, US, (LEE KHOON CHOY), (PHAN HIEN)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009